

New Irish Board Website

The Irish Board of Speech and Drama is delighted to introduce our new website at www.irishboard.ie. The site contains information on every examination type, a browse-able syllabus, 2011-12 fees, downloadable entry forms, news, a blog (which will be used to tell teachers about resources, opportunities and interesting things to look at), a link to dramabooks.ie and links to our popular Facebook, YouTube and Twitter pages. There's a handy search button too so that information is easy to find. Have a look. You'll like it.



Why Do Speech and Drama?

Speech, drama and communication activities contribute to the personal, social, intellectual and creative development of children, young people and adults, by opening up avenues for the appreciation of drama, literature and poetry, providing a structured framework for creative expression, and giving technical support and guidance for improved skills in communication.

Speech, drama and communication activities such as drama games, exercises in movement and mime, verse and prose speaking, improvisation and creative drama, public speaking, and participating in scripted drama help to develop critical skills such as:

- working collaboratively with others
- enhancing general communication skills and clarity
- non-verbal communication
- listening, speaking, concentrating and observing
- creative thinking
- enhancing self-expression, self-confidence and self-esteem
- using movement and gesture to communicate emotion, character and context
- creating and sustaining fictional roles
- interacting with others in a fictional setting
- presentation skills
- improvisational and role-playing skills
- reflecting on and appreciating literature and drama

Irish Board of Speech and Drama examinations provide:

- an objective assessment of the attainment of skills and experience, measured against established criteria
- an independent and professional evaluation of progress
- positive critical feedback and guidance for future development
- an opportunity to develop self-confidence and self-esteem in a safe environment
- certification of achievement

Entry Procedure

The more notice you can give us of your proposed examination date(s) the better. As soon as you've set a date (and have checked it against school calendars/ Communion and Confirmation dates), please contact us, even if it's three or four months in advance. We will then treat this as a **provisional booking**.

Bookings will only be CONFIRMED once we have received completed and signed entry forms. Entry Forms MUST be received in the Irish Board office NO LATER than one calendar month prior to the proposed date of the examination. They may be posted or scanned and emailed to us. Unfortunately, we can no longer confirm bookings on the basis of a phone call, text or email.

Entry Forms are enclosed with your syllabus. You may photocopy them if you wish. All Entry Forms are also available on www.irishboard.ie. Otherwise, phone or email us and we'll be more than happy to post you a supply.

Examination Regulations

In the Irish Board we try to keep the rules and bureaucracy to a minimum. Some rules are necessary to enable us to be as flexible as we are in relation to dates and other matters.

Our Examination Regulations are on p11 of the Syllabus. Please read them carefully.

dramabooks.ie

On www.dramabooks.ie, our one-stop shop for drama resources you will find all our publications and CDs – short plays, monologues, duologues, teachers' handbooks, theory books, Movement to Music and Theory CDs.

There are some new books in our Solos and Theory sections will worth having a look at (see over for details).

Please drop in and browse.

Diploma Examinations

In our Syllabus we provide a lot of information and guidance to candidates and their teachers in relation to what they are required to study and know for their exams, especially the written ones.

The full range of our Diploma Exams can be found from p36 of the Syllabus. They are:

- Diploma of Associate in Acting Performance (formerly Acting Diploma)
- Diploma of Associate in Musical Theatre Performance
- Diploma of Associate (Teaching)
- Diploma of Licentiate (Teaching Diploma)
- Fellowship

Sample exam papers from previous years' Associate and Licentiate exams are available from www.irishboard.ie

Diploma Examinations Eligibility

The Central Council has reviewed and revised the eligibility criteria for entry to the Diploma of Associate (Teaching) and the Diploma of Licentiate (Teaching) examinations. These eligibility criteria are effective for all new candidates from 1 September 2011:

To be eligible for entry for the Diploma of Associate (Teaching), a candidate must:

- be at least 19 years of age
 - have obtained at least a 'C' in Honours English in the Irish Leaving Certificate Examination
 - have studied speech and drama for at least three years
- Documentary evidence of eligibility MUST be submitted with a candidate's entry form.

To be eligible for entry for the Diploma of Licentiate (Teaching), a candidate must:

- be at least 20 years of age
 - have obtained at least a 'C' in Honours English in the Irish Leaving Certificate Examination
 - hold the Irish Board of Speech and Drama Diploma of Associate (Teaching)
 - have studied speech and drama for at least three years
- Documentary evidence of eligibility MUST be submitted with a candidate's entry form.

Diploma Examination Dates

The November 2011 Diploma session will take place on Sunday 27 November 2011 in the Stillorgan Park Hotel and the June 2012 session on Sunday 10 June 2012.

New Books

Looking for some new duos, solos and prose pieces? Look no further than Imelda Byrne's '**Speech and Drama Material: a miscellany for seniors and adults**' now available from the Solos, Duologues and Prose Compilations section of www.dramabooks.ie.

Also newly available: completely revised and much expanded **Associate Diploma (Teaching) Theory Guidelines** in 2 volumes, available separately or as a set.

Irish Board Resource Centre

Please do visit the office. We'd love to see you, make you coffee and offer you our biscuits. We have over 500 books on poetry, mime, stage direction, the voice, drama, public speaking and so on. Our library catalogue is on www.irishboard.ie. Just contact us before you come to make sure we'll be here. While we can't lend out books, you are free to browse. There's a map showing where we are, on our web site and you can download written directions from there too.

Speech and Drama Teachers of Ireland

Speech and Drama Teachers of Ireland is the association of speech, drama and communication teachers in Ireland.

The organisation holds about 4 workshops a year, a festival of Speech & Drama, and numerous other events all aimed at keeping teachers up to date with happenings in the field of Speech, Drama and Communication. If you work in the field of Speech, Drama and Communication, Speech and Drama Teachers of Ireland is a useful organisation to join. Members benefit from discount insurance, workshops with personalised notes aimed at class room environments and, best of all, general help and advice for teachers. Previous workshops have been facilitated by James Dodding, Tom Doherty, Siobhan Parkinson, Eric Weitz, Jonathan Neelands and Betty Ann Norton, with recitals by Paula Meehan and a host of others.

They have a bright new website which you'll find at www.speechanddramateachersofireland.ie.

They also have a Facebook page a link to which you'll find from their main website.

Keep in Touch

If you have any questions at all or are looking for advice on any of our exams, please don't hesitate to contact us by phone or email (see below).

On www.irishboard.ie, you'll find the Syllabus, Entry Forms, Fees, free Theory Books, Lyric poem suggestions, Diploma past papers, and links to our other sites and other resources.